

A B S T R A C T

"A guide wire for use in re-canalising a vascular occlusion
in a human or animal subject"

- 5 A guide wire (1) for re-canalising a vascular occlusion comprises a core wire (5)
which terminates at its distal end (4) in a terminal member (7) for opening the
occlusion. A helical coil sleeve (10) extends around the core wire (5) from the
terminal member (7) to a location (11) along the core wire (5). The terminal member
(7) defines first and second planar surface portions (13,14) which converge towards
10 a distal transversely extending leading edge portion (8). As the terminal member (7)
is urged through the vascular occlusion, the first and second surface portions (13,14)
act on the occlusion to form an opening therethrough. A distal portion (28) of the
core wire (5) is of spade-like configuration for facilitating bending thereof for directing
the terminal member (7) out of a central major plane (35) defined by the distal
15 portion (28) for facilitating aligning of the terminal member (7) with a branched vessel
of the vascular system.

Fig. 4 to accompany the abstract.